BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Executive Council Office

- Bilateral Accords between Yukon-N.W.T, Alaska-Yukon and B.C.-Yukon have been prepared.
- $1.1M a year for the next two fiscal years for the Aboriginal Language Services Agreement.
- Formalizing government to government relationships with First Nations and making them full partners in the economy.

Community Services

- Enhancement of CDF and FireSmart Programs.
- $225K for new fire truck for Beaver Creek.
- $1.2M for Carcross sewage disposal.
- $500K for Vuntut Gwitchin First nation's riverbank stabilization project in Old Crow.
- Implementation of E-Government initiatives.
- $400K for Host Society for 2007 Canada Winter Games.
- $1M Capital Contribution to City of Whitehorse for Phase II of Whitehorse Multiplex.

Economic Development

- Creation of stand-alone Department of Economic Development to be established in consultation with stakeholders, First Nation governments and government employees.

Education

- $1.5M provided to reinstate Community Training Fund.
- New mathematics program to improve student achievement in grades 4, 5 and 6.
- Extension of First Nation Elders Project to include five schools.
- $2.9M for completion of addition of Eliza VanBibber School in Pelly Crossing.
- $605K for school information technology, distance education and video conferencing.

Energy, Mines and Resources

- Department will be responsible for managing Yukon's land based natural resources effective April 1, 2003.
- Continuation of Yukon Mineral Exploration Tax Credit and Yukon Mining Incentive Program.
- Development of a Forestry Policy Framework.
- Implementation of a five year agricultural policy.
- Development of regulatory process for pipelines.

Environment

- Responsible for water management post devolution.
- Commitment to ensure safe drinking water.
- Pilot project to collect waste oil in five communities.

Finance

- Exemption from road tax on fuel consumed in sawmill and golf course operations.

Health & Social Services

- Negotiation of a fund to help cover increasing annual health care costs.
- $4.5M three year Primary Health Care Transition Fund.
- 25% increase in Pioneer Utility Grant indexed against inflation.
- $685.5K three year Quit Smoking Campaign.
- Commitment to deal with FASD.

Highways and Public Works

- $20M for Shakwak Project.
- $2M for Alaska Highway Construction between Mendenhall and Haines Junction.
- $2.2M rehabilitation work for Teslin Bridge.
- $1M for Dawson City Airside Improvement Projects.
- $350K for Whitehorse Trolley.

Justice

- Collaboration with First Nations on Yukon's corrections system including replacement of Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

Public Service Commission

- Initiatives to employ disabled in government.
- Review of Workplace Harassment Program.
- Ensure smooth transition of federal and territorial employees involved in devolution.
- Joint training program with Public Service Alliance of Canada.

Tourism and Culture

- Reinstatement of stand-alone department.
- Implementation of three year Market and Product Development Strategies.
- Support for Yukon Convention Bureau to market Yukon as year round convention destination.
- Promotion of affordable and accessible international and domestic air access to the Yukon.
- $250K for Dawson City Art Society.

Women's Directorate

- Reinstated to its former status.